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COVID-19 heats up Haliburton housing market

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The COVID-19 pandemic is having a big impact on Haliburton County's real estate market, turning it red hot, with the number of showings and offers way up, and inventory barely keeping pace with demand.

With most of those buyers coming from Toronto and the GTA, local realtors are chalking the boom up to the coronavirus crisis, with people seeking refuge from the city by moving to more sparsely populated areas.

"A lot of buyers want out of the city," says Linda Baumgartner, broker of record for RE/MAX's The Haliburton Real Estate Team. "Our inventory is low, demand is high. That's driving prices up."

The story is the same across the county's real estate brokerages.

"We're seeing a lot of demand," says Anthony vanLieshout, broker of record for Royal LePage Lakes of Haliburton, adding he had 30 showings for a cottage on Lake Boshkung the previous weekend, and saying that number of showings is not uncommon.

see DEMAND page 10



Autumn stroll

Fall colours have made for idyllic conditions for pedestrians (and their pets) to get outside this month. Although the leaves are falling quickly, you can still catch some gorgeous hues around the county. /DARREN LUM Staff

MH septic re-inspection program to begin in spring 2021

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The following are brief reports of items discussed during an Oct. 8 Minden Hills committee-of-the-whole meeting.

The Township of Minden Hills plans to proceed with its septic re-inspection program in the spring of 2021.

The township has hired firm WSP Canada to conduct the mandatory inspections and while the process had been scheduled to get underway in 2020, it was put on hold amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Conducted on a cost-recovery basis, the lid-off inspections will cost property owners \$240; a \$225.55 fee per site, as well as a \$15 administration fee, designed to cover the township's in-house costs for administering the program. If property owners wish to use a firm other than WSP, they have the option to do so, however, that will ultimately cost more money. The \$225 site fee and \$15 administration fee will still apply, and there will also be a third-party inspection review fee of nearly \$150.

The upfront costs for the township – including fees paid to the firm for scheduling, mapping, risk assessment, public education,

see INSPECTIONS page 4



Melanie Hevesi
Broker

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Boshkung Lake - \$550,000

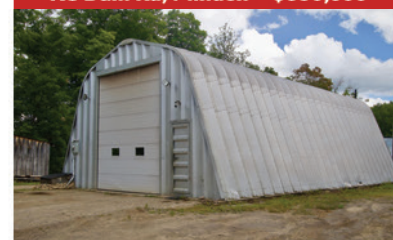


Want to be on one of the best lakes in Haliburton, but finding it unaffordable this summer??? Boshkung lake awaits you, if you are willing to put in some sweat equity. Boathouse, sandy beach area and south west exposure. 105 ft of water frontage. Great afternoon sun and beautiful sunset views could be yours. The cottage is about 925 sq ft

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Online campaign raises awareness of FTD

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

At the end of September, Amanda Dawson reached out to the community of Minden through a public group Facebook page, looking to see if anyone might remember her dad, Stephen, who worked in the community as a full-time and then part-time doctor from 1986 to 1994.

The responses were numerous – from his neighbours on Mountain Lake at that time, from his patients who reported his attention to care and from his fellow coworkers, including nurses and an X-ray technician who noted his empathy, compassion and strength through traumatic emergencies – and they brought Amanda, who now lives in Portland, to tears.

“That response was just overwhelming to me, to hear about the man he was when he started out his career,” she said. “It’s consistent with things I’ve heard from friends I know in Toronto who knew him when he was young.”

Amanda said her dad, who was from Scarborough, always loved rural Ontario and started out his practice in Wawa, Ont. – a message she posted on a public group in that area elicited similar fond memories of her dad – prior to moving to Minden.

“He loved serving remote communities and rural communities, and just really loved the exposure, as a general practitioner,” she told the *Times*. “He got to treat so many kinds of diseases and see everything and it was a great experience but he also just loved the sense of community.”

With their four kids, Amanda – a mom now herself – wonders how he and her mom, Barbara, a nurse, managed, but said she has fond memories of childhood alongside her parents and brothers.

“I remember the early years with my dad,” she said. “He was very, very passionate about medicine and helping people and I remember wanting to follow in his footsteps and be exactly like him and become a doctor. He was very excited about that and very supportive of that. He said it’s not a job, it’s a calling.”

One of Stephen’s friends told Amanda of a time that Stephen cared for his father, who had a glioblastoma brain tumour.

“He called my dad because his step-mother was having a really hard time with some of his symptoms, and she was panicking,” recalled Amanda. “He said, ‘why don’t we just call Steve, and maybe he can offer some help.’ So my dad’s friend called my dad and my dad said to him, ‘I’m just going to blow out the candles on my birthday cake, and I’ll be right over.’ And in true form, he left his own birthday party, raced over, made the hour-long drive to get there and comforted his mother and cared for his father, and that’s the kind of person he was.”

It’s the kind of memory that clashes with what Amanda and her family experienced later in his life, when she wrote on the Facebook group that his “personality started changing, he was blamed for his behaviour, and he eventually lost everything – career, relationships, life savings, and who he was as a person.”

The changes were subtle at first, said Amanda, but when he was about 40, she said her mom noticed he started to become obsessed with religion, at first becoming interested in praying, then later writing a book about salvation, a message he became intent on sharing. The details of his fixation, which led to unprofessional and inappropriate behaviour and the loss of his licence to practice medicine, are well-documented in news reports from that time.

“We had a hard relationship with my dad because of what happened,” she said. “At the time, because it was such an insidious progression of changes and symptoms, it was like the boiling frog phenomenon, where, over so many years, he changed.”

It was difficult for the family to persuade Stephen to see a doctor about what might be causing the personality change, until they became concerned about his dangerous driving and were able to have him seen.

“[The doctors] saw enough to understand that this had been going on for a long time, and we’ve been kind of dealing with this and struggling with this as a family for a long time, but it was clear to them that something else was going on,” said Amanda. “They ended up finding a brain tumour ... The brain tumour was eventually the acute condition that took his life, but while he was in the hospital getting treated, they were wondering if [he had] frontotemporal degeneration because of the symptoms, the history.”

Dawson was diagnosed with bvFTD, or behavioural variant frontotemporal degeneration.



Dr. Stephen Dawson, former doctor in Minden, with his wife, Barbara, and children Amanda, Michael, Matthew and Paul. /Photo submitted by Amanda Dawson

“He had a genetic mutation that causes FTD, which was diagnosed through a blood test,” Amanda told the *Times*. “We were able to connect the dots once we got the diagnosis that this was the same disease that both his sister and father had.”

She quotes Dr. Bruce Miller at the University of California, San Francisco, a leading expert in FTD, to explain:

“Unlike Alzheimer’s disease, where memory is the problem, classic frontotemporal dementia strips people of their humanness. Patients lose empathy for others, they become disinhibited, they lose their ability to make rational judgments, they become addiction-prone and I think, in general, by the time I see a patient, with frontotemporal dementia, the whole social network around the patient has been destroyed ... This disease for me became in-road a mirror into understanding what is uniquely human. Constructs of the sense of self – the very things that we like in a human being – begin to disappear ... The frontotemporal dementia patient is the ultimate underdog. And I’ve wanted to take away the blame for their disease, and explain to families that it is the specific circuit in the brain that degenerates in frontotemporal dementia that changes the person, that changes who they were.”

Amanda, who works in public speaking, notes the Steve Jobs quote that states the dots are easier to connect in hindsight.

“People were quick to judge his behaviour, and I was the first in line,” she said. “I didn’t understand why he was acting out and turning into someone we didn’t recognize; why religion became a compulsive addiction to him; why he became erratic, sometimes violent, and detached from reality. I was upset that he let his new religious beliefs interfere with his work and his family, and was very upset at the thought of him hurting anyone. This was not the man I remembered from my childhood: my dad who was larger-than-life, who loved and encouraged us, painted beautiful landscapes, loved children and animals and people of all backgrounds, took us out sailing on Mountain Lake, and dedicated his life to caring for his patients. His extreme ideology and behaviours became a wedge between him and the rest of the world.”

Though some close friends stuck by him, Amanda said those years were very difficult for everyone who knew her father, as he experienced extreme, violent outbursts, extreme religious ideology and repetitive behaviour.

“What no one understood at the time was that the wedge between us was actually frontotemporal degeneration. Not religion, not poor judgment, not my dad abandoning us, but a neurodegenerative brain disease. It took us 20 years to understand that none of this was his fault.”

Frontotemporal degeneration, according to The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration, is the most common form of dementia for people under age 60, representing a group of brain disorders caused by degeneration of the frontal and/or temporal lobes of the brain. The ATFD site notes that “FTD brings a gradual, progressive decline in behaviour, language or movement, with memory usually relatively preserved,” has an onset that ranges in age from 21 to 80 but typically between 45 and 64; has a length of progression varying from two to over 20 years and is considered less common and far less known than Alzheimer’s Disease, often being misdiagnosed as Alzheimer’s, depression, Parkinson’s disease or a psychiatric condition. It can be genetic or sporadic.

The diagnosis meant that the family had some answers for Stephen’s uncharacteristic and hurtful behaviour.

“The impact of this disease has a ripple effect far beyond the patient,” said Amanda. “In my dad’s case, he lost everything: his career, his reputation, precious relationships and years with his kids, friends and family members, life savings, health... everything. But we all lost out on my dad. My family, our friends, and all of his patients who graciously responded to my Facebook post to tell me what a gift he was to the community.... we all lost a great man and a contributor who started out with the most noble and heroic intentions, and then became the ultimate underdog. In the final year of his life, fences were mended and we were able to be a happy family again, the way it was when my brothers and I were small children. He was peaceful and full of joy. It was a gift from the universe.”

Though the positive memories she heard about her dad were meaningful, Amanda had reached out to the Facebook groups to share details of a grassroots fundraising effort she hoped would go viral, in memory of Stephen, who died in 2016. Becoming connected with the AFTD, she has worked with them for a volunteer for four years now.

“I’ve met so many other families who are currently on this journey and I can tell you that the impact on caregivers is enormous,” she said. “There are so many factors playing into the fact that FTD is the most common young dementia in the world, and yet, most people have never heard of it. It’s not very well-understood in the medical community, either.”

Inspired by the ALS ice bucket challenge, which went viral in 2014 raising more than \$220 million for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or Lou Gehrig’s disease, Amanda shared a message in private Facebook groups serving the FTD community, asking if they thought they might be able to do something similar.

“I was overwhelmed by the response to that and had 50 people sign up to volunteer,” said Amanda.

Together, they launched the #FTDshotshotchallenge during World FTD Awareness Week, which happens from Sept. 27 to Oct. 4, asking participants to film themselves taking a shot of hot sauce, tag friends on social media and challenge them, and donate to the AFTD.

“We have all been through hell with this disease, but we are rising up from the ashes, stronger because of all that we all have in common: a deep love for our families and a drive to make life better for the next generation of people with, and touched by, FTD,” said Amanda. “We are breaking the cycle of stigma, trauma, violence, and other issues that often come hand-in-hand with this disease.”

Within two weeks of the launch of the campaign, Amanda said the group has exceeded their \$100,000 goal, with donations ranging from \$10 to \$20,000.

“People all around the world, including in the Netherlands, Italy and the UK, are doing the #FTDshotshotchallenge, saying the words ‘frontotemporal degeneration,’ and telling the world about what it means to be affected by this cruel disease,” she said. “Many are telling their stories for the first time, bravely sharing what in the previous generation was misunderstood or kept secret. I am grateful to this community of people who have been through so much, and raise from the ashes with courage and strength.”

Amanda applauds those who have been able to share their story, acknowledging that for too many years there has been stigma around the disease, that “families suffer privately, quietly, in shame and in the dark.”

The online presence of the #FTDshotshotchallenge, money raised for research toward treatment and a potential cure, and awareness being shared could change that.

“I do feel like there’s a little bit of, just even shining the light on this is bringing some dignity to people who have suffered, and I think it’s a hard year for people whose parents who in LTC facilities right now, who can’t see their parents or loved ones. This is offering some hope to our community, which we really, really need, in a dark time. This is shining a light.”

Amanda said she is involved because of the love for her family, including her son, who she hopes can live in a future without the disease, and to help other families who are experiencing what she did.

“And if there’s just some little morsel of hope out there, I want to help connect people to that hope,” she said. “I’m doing that for my family and all these other amazing families in the FTD community who, we need a cure, we need more people to know about this disease, and we need hope. It’s not a job, this is like a calling...you know, much like how my dad felt about serving the community in Minden.”

For more information about the #FTDshotshotchallenge or the AFTD visit <https://www.theaftd.org/>.

'No guarantee' students can switch between at-home and in-school learning

Students wishing to switch placed on waiting list, board says class cap sizes play into decisions

by JENN WATT
Editor

Students who want to switch between in-school and at-home learning will have their name added to a waitlist, with the school board evaluating monthly which students on the list can be reassigned.

On Oct. 7, Trillium Lakelands District School Board posted an update to families by director of education Wes Hahn outlining the board's plans.

"At this point, any parent/guardian wishing for a change from one learning option to another must have their child's name placed on a waiting list by contacting their child's home school," Hahn wrote. "The waiting lists will be reviewed and changes will be made if possible over the course of the school year. Our guiding principles for these decisions include class size regulations and staffing, so not all moves may be possible. It is important to note that there is no guarantee of a change for your child."

The post triggered comments on Facebook from parents who said their understanding was that students who wanted to switch learning venues could do so at the end of October.

"When we made our decisions on doing in-school learning we were told at the end of October we would have the choice to move them over to online if desired," one commenter wrote, "now that it's nearing the middle of October our decision has been taken away from us and now it's a waiting list and you may not get the choice! That's wrong, if we deem our child would be better off at home instead of in-school we should be able to make that choice!"

In an email sent to families in August, TLDSB said that

registration selections would remain in place until October.

"Many families want to know if they can change their mind about their choice for in-school or at-home learning. Once your choice has been made, this will remain the program for your child until late October," the email sent in August read. "We cannot make changes prior to this because any change means alterations to classroom cohorts and to bussing route schedules. This decision has been made in the best interest of safety of our students and our staff."

TLDSB communications officer Sinead Fegan said the board has been working with parents whose children are on the waitlist and with a recent staffing reorganization have "worked to address many of the students on the waitlists."

Fegan said she couldn't give a figure for how many students are on the waitlist because it is constantly changing, but said names would be reviewed monthly.

"Moving forward, the waitlist will be reviewed at the beginning of each month," she said. "We will not make changes/switches where a change will make us exceed class cap sizes."

The board also added teachers for those doing at-home learning using paper materials, rather than online.

A parent had commented on the TLDSB Facebook page that their child had not yet received paper materials. "We are doing learning from home with the educational materials supplied by the board in 'paper and pen' format," the parent wrote. "We still haven't received anything. Two weeks ago we were told we would have materials by Friday, Sept. 25."

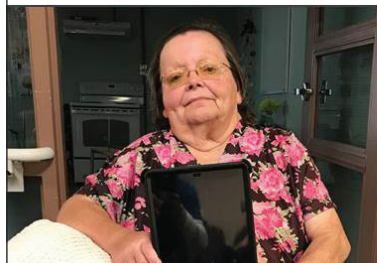
An update to the board's website on Oct. 8 reads that the teachers will be in contact with families the week of Oct. 13 to 16 with full implementation of the paper program on Oct. 16.

“

Moving forward, the waitlist will be reviewed at the beginning of each month. We will not make changes/switches where a change will make us exceed class cap sizes.

— SINEAD FEGAN, TLDSB

”



Rotary gift helps Hyland Crest residents connect

Hyland Crest long-term care residents received new iPads courtesy of the Minden Rotary Club, which will allow them to video chat with friends and family as well as watch Netflix and Disney+ programming. Clockwise from top left, Sonya Proctor, Tom Williamson, Ina Hobbs with Jesse Archer (staff), Lois Watson, and Patricia Campbell hold up their new tablets. /Photo courtesy of Minden Rotary Club

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(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Committee of the Whole meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference and Closed Session meetings via teleconference, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted.

The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

October 29 – Council Meeting

November 12 – Committee of the Whole Meeting Please note Council Meetings are reduced to one (1) meeting a month in December.

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice.

We encourage those wishing to view the meeting to also download the agenda, as it will not be displayed during the streaming process. Meeting agendas can be downloaded by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/.

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

WASTE REDUCTION WEEK

Next week is Waste Reduction Week! Follow our Facebook page for waste reduction tips that you can easily implement at home.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Building Inspectors Wanted!

The Construction industry is booming in Minden Hills, and in order to keep up with demand we are looking for qualified individuals to join our team. If you enjoy both inside and outside work, being part of a dynamic team of professionals, and have your Building Code certification in General Legal/Process and House or Small Buildings and/or Onsite Sewage Systems, we would like to hear from you. As a member of CUPE Local 4286, your hours of work will consist of 35/week, with an hourly rate of pay of \$25.69, currently under review. Application deadline is October 30, 2020 by 12:00 noon.

Planning Technician

Reporting to the Planner, this position will provide a variety of support and assistance to the department including responding to requests for Planning information, review building plans for compliance with the Township's Zoning Bylaw, interpret and analyze planning documents and policies, prepare GIS maps, conduct research and assist in background reporting. This is a full time, union position with hours being 35/week. The rate of pay is \$24.18, currently under review. Earnings will be subject to union dues.

For more information and how to apply, visit www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities/. To learn more about these positions and how to apply, please visit www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities/.

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MINDEN HILLS
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REQUEST FOR TENDER - #ENV 20-07 WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING CENTRE ATTENDANT SERVICES

The Township of Minden Hills is seeking qualified bidders to provide Landfill and Transfer Station Attendant services for its four (4) Waste Disposal and Recycling Centres for an initial period of 9 months commencing on January 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021. With opportunity for two (2), one (1) year renewal options at the discretion of the Township. Submissions must be received by the Township of Minden Hills on/before **October 26, 2020 at 12:00 PM Local Time**. Please visit www.mindenhills.ca/tenders to view and download the tender document and attachments.

Inspections will cost \$240 per property

from page 1

etc., as well as labour, legal and supplies costs – have totalled \$82,500.

As chief building official Colin McKnight and WSP environmental consultant Paisley McDowell noted, there was a hiccup in processing some 2,000 property files due to discrepancy between GIS information from the County of Haliburton and the township's records. Some properties did not have addresses attached to them.

McKnight said the township had contacted planning software firm CityView and had also been working with the county's IT department. "They basically adjusted and added what we needed," he said, adding the processing of those files was now underway.

"The goal of this effort is to come up with one list of all of the addresses in the township – the tax roll numbers, civic address, and all of the homeowners – so that we can appropriately send out mailing information to all owners to introduce WSP, the township, the program and what the future steps are," McDowell said.

Minden Hills is the final of the county's four lower-tier townships to initiate its mandatory septic re-inspection program. While the requirement for the programs comes from the provincial government, the design and process of each program is up to individual municipal governments.

Public meetings go virtual

Minden Hills held its first public meeting – a meeting where members of the public have a legislated opportunity to make comments or ask questions, typically related to planning matters – since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in March. Amid the ongoing pandemic, council meetings continue to take place via online conferencing app Zoom and are broadcast to the public via YouTube. For the time being, members of the public who wish to take part in the public meeting will also participate virtually.

"The province has encouraged municipalities to resume the processing of planning applications in an effort to restart



Minden Hills councillors participate in their Oct. 8 committee-of-the-whole meeting via online conferencing app Zoom.

the economy," said Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell, reading a prepared statement. "To support the restart of the planning process, the province has passed a number of pieces of legislation to permit public meetings to continue during the pandemic. This includes legislative permission to hold public meetings virtually, and we are doing so today."

A public meeting on a request for a zoning bylaw amendment took place with participants taking part virtually.

"The Township of Minden Hills remains committed to a fair and transparent public process," Schell said. "As set out in the Planning Act, every person who attends a public meeting to consider a proposed zoning bylaw, shall be given an opportunity to make representation, irrespective of the proposed bylaw, and members attending today's virtual public meeting can speak to the proposed bylaw by way of computer or smartphone by going to the website."

The information on public meetings is contained in the "newsroom" section of the township's website at www.minden hills.ca.

“

The province has encouraged municipalities to resume the processing of planning applications in an effort to restart the economy.

— DEPUTY MAYOR LISA SCHELL

”



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Health unit launches new COVID-19 data dashboard

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

A new way to deliver data has been launched on the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit website. The health unit had been receiving requests from residents to present the data in a different format, according to Dr. Lynn Noseworthy, the health unit's medical officer of health.

"People were asking for a more visual representation and pointed to a platform being used by other health units as an example," Noseworthy told the *Times*. "The health unit launched the new platform [last] week. It is live for people to use but we are still refining the tool."

The dashboard is designed to provide the information in a more visual format that the health unit is hoping people will find easier to access. It does not release further information about confirmed cases, such as a breakdown of age/gender of confirmed cases per specific county, or in which towns the

COVID-19 Contacts, Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths by County							
County	Current High-Risk Contacts	Current Probable Cases	Cases Not Resolved	Cases Resolved	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Deaths	Deaths among Probable Cases
Haliburton	5	0	1	18	1	0	0
Kawartha Lakes	3	0	0	164	11	19	13
Northumberland	4	0	0	44	3	1	0
COVID-19 Contacts, Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths, HKPRDHU							
All Counties	Current High-Risk Contacts	Current Probable Cases	Cases Not Resolved	Cases Resolved	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Deaths	Deaths among Probable Cases
HKPRDHU	12	0	1	226	15	20	13

people diagnosed with COVID-19 live.

"The health unit is legally required to protect an individual's personal and personal health information when that information is in our custody or control," said Noseworthy. "That means we will not provide any information about confirmed cases that could potentially lead to that individual being identified, including their specific age, gender or place of residence."

The soft launch of the new data dashboard occurred last week.

"We appreciate any public feedback as we are still working on refining the product to help meet people's information needs," said Noseworthy.

Visit www.hkpr.on.ca to see the chart, which is updated daily.

On Tuesday, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit reported one unresolved case of COVID-19 in Haliburton County - the only one in the region. The health unit has a new database which can be seen at www.hkpr.on.ca. /Screenshot

Strong fall start for U-Links with 21 projects underway

U-Links has had an exciting start to the fall 2020 academic term, with a high number of community-based research projects matched with several departments at Trent University.

A total of 21 research projects involving 26 student researchers have been matched within Trent's biology, history, school of business, and school of the environment departments for the fall semester. One project was also matched to Fleming College's credit for product course.

The project cycle began with uncertainty due to the COVID-19 crisis, but research interest from community organizations, slight changes to project design, and the facilitation of low-risk essential student field placements within Haliburton County meant the project cycle was able to continue.

"We are thrilled that our community partners have continued to support us despite all of the uncertainties over the last

few months, and that our staff team and management committee has demonstrated so much resiliency and creativity in adapting our services," said Amanda Duncombe-Lee, program coordinator.

Project topic areas include biodiversity monitoring with the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust, the impacts of the Canada Emergency Response Benefit for job seekers for the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County Poverty Reduction Roundtable, and correlations between dental caries and diabetes in low income families for Haliburton County Volunteer Dental Outreach.

Approximately half of the projects were designed to be completed remotely, where students can access resources and attend meetings online from home or school, with the Community Benthos Biomonitoring Program projects requiring a combination of both fieldwork and remote instruction.

All essential fieldwork was successfully completed by students and U-Links staff before the Thanksgiving weekend.

U-Links would like to sincerely thank all community hosts, students, and faculty for their time, commitment, and ongoing support for community-based research and student experiential learning. A special thank you goes out to all participating lake associations for stepping up to provide safe work environments and travel for students doing fieldwork on our beautiful lakes.

U-Links is currently accepting research project proposals for the winter academic term. Community organizations can contact Amanda Duncombe-Lee, program coordinator, at aduncombe-lee@ulinks.ca or call the office at 705-286-2411.

Submitted by U-Links Centre for
Community-Based Research



Melanie Hevesi
Broker
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• 705-286-1288 • Fax 705-286-4768
Published by White Pine Media Corp

Funded by the Government of Canada | Canada

Monday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Tuesday to Friday 9 a.m. - noon
Letters to the Editor must be signed and include phone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Email must include name and phone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.
All Subscriptions: \$46/ per year or \$88 for 2 years
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Sleepless nights

I'M AN INSOMNIAC, or at least a part-time one.

That's been the case for virtually all of my adult life, the insomnia coming in waves. Typically it lasts a few weeks then goes away for months, or even a year, maybe. Typically it happens when something anxiety-inducing is taking place in my life.

It's been back again during the past few weeks. I go to bed, get a few solid hours' sleep, and then am up, wide awake through the middle of the night, sometimes into the morning. The anxiety-inducing thing in this case is of course the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and all its myriad implications.

In the days before we had kids I would sometimes pace the house when I couldn't sleep, but I don't dare do that now, lest I wake a sleeping toddler and her baby sister. Sometimes I watch old movies, the black-and-white variety, but during this particular wave of insomnia, I most often find myself sitting at the island in our kitchen, some time between 2 and 5 a.m.

I think about how strange the past seven months have been. I wonder how long it will take for a safe vaccine to be created, how long it will take to mass-produce it, how long it will take to vaccinate billions of people (yes, I know not everyone will get it), and what life will look like beyond that. The phrase "new normal" has become pretty old-

hat at this point. We all seem to understand that the post-pandemic era will be different than the pre-pandemic one, although the ways in which it will be different will only really become clear in time.

I'm almost 38 years old, so let's say my life is roughly half over. For those of us who are roughly halfway through our lives, it seems clear they are going to consist of pre-pandemic and post-pandemic halves. We will

remember what things were like before the pandemic, and how they were different after, and not just in terms of Plexiglas shields at checkout counters or screenings at airports, but in little, day-to-day things. I think of scenes from

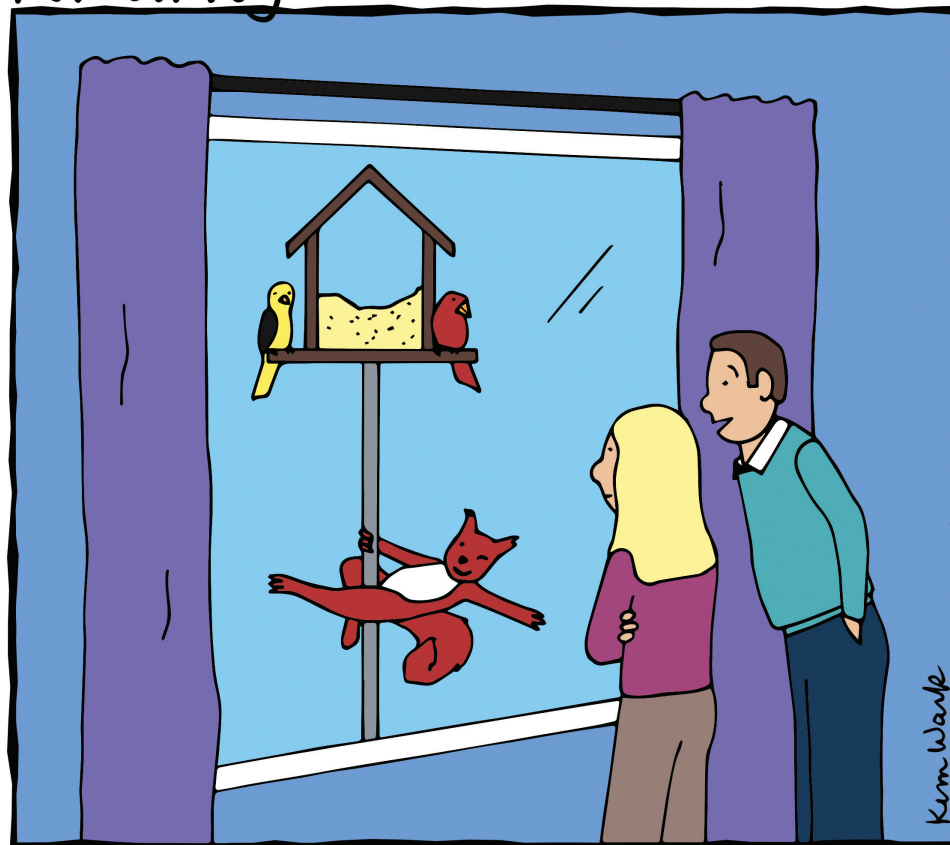


CHAD INGRAM
Reporter

own life, my youth in particular – crowd-surfing at concerts, high fives with strangers at Blue Jays games, handshakes and hugs with complete strangers in some instances – and wonder if that kind of utterly casual, unthinking contact is gone from our culture, at least during my lifetime. Will face masks, at least for some, become something they wear in public places for the rest of their lives? Will my children be able to look at photographs and tell if they were taken before the pandemic based on what's happening in them?

Only time will tell, the first major hurdle in that timeline the creation of a vaccine. Still a few sleeps before then.

Kwarky



"I preferred it when he stole birdseed."

Tales from the hawthorns

I DON'T KNOW many things for certain, but I do know that if I were a balloon animal, I'd steer clear of hawthorns. Let that sink in, because it's probably the most important nugget of wisdom this column will reveal.

The unfortunate part is that there is no hunting season on balloon animals. Don't ask me how I know this.

Worse still ruffed grouse and woodcock love to congregate in hawthorn patches when their haw-apples are in season. As a result, I find myself in and around the hawthorns more often than I'd like. And that is why I can honestly report to you that the pursuit of ruffed grouse and woodcock is the most dangerous hunting sport.

I know. You're probably thinking there are many other hunting sports that are far more dangerous. Lion, tiger, hippo, wild boar and elephant hunting immediately come to mind, I imagine. But that's only because you have never been charged by an angry hawthorn bush.

Trust me. If you had, you'd understand what terror is truly about.

Those who have a weak stomach and get queasy should probably skip the following paragraph. I only include it to drive the point home.

Here it is. I know a guy who had a \$600 set of stylish grouse hunting clothes bought for him by his wife torn to shreds after only spending half a day in the hawthorns – it took that long to extricate him. That poor sap was so entangled in those hawthorns that he couldn't raise his gun up to shoot any of the three woodcock he flushed even though they took off in sequence and flew over an open field with not a tree in the way. Instead he had to watch his hunting buddy drop all three.

It traumatized him so much that he won't

hunt with me anymore.

Now do you see what I mean?

Hawthorns, if you ask me, are half the reason why we hear so many cougar reports. Some unsuspecting hiker sees a grouse hunter who has just emerged from the hawthorns and naturally assumes that the hunter was mauled by one or more big cats. It's an easy mistake to make.

The good news for grouse hunters is that hawthorns serve a purpose, other than merely holding grouse. For instance, they provide a way to measure the judgment of a prospective hunting partner.

If that person says, "Why don't I go through the hawthorns while you wait on the edges for whatever flies out," they have incredibly bad judgment – and you need to keep that person around for as many hunts as possible.

Conversely, hawthorns can also reveal if a hunter will be incompatible with you. Your first clue is when they say, "Why don't you go through the hawthorns while I wait on the edges for whatever flies out."

That's the kind of selfish hunter you don't need around.

Despite all this, the reward for hunting in and around hawthorns are usually a grouse or woodcock dinner, which are among the finest wild game birds you can eat. And that's why every year hundreds of hunters don't mind turning themselves into human sprinklers, if only for a while.

In fact, my former hunting partner wears his hawthorn-inflicted scars like a badge of honour. He says they are the mark of a true upland bird hunter and are proof of true bravery.

Despite all this courage, he still won't talk about the \$600 set of hunting clothes he ruined while his wife is around. That is, apparently, too thorny of an issue.



STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Setting a better example

YOUNG PEOPLE are getting much of the blame for the soaring number of infections in what is being called the second wave of COVID-19. You know, the private house parties, those crazy car rally gatherings, the eating out and flocking to the bars. Ignoring all the advice about avoiding large gatherings, social distancing and wearing masks.

I wonder if the young would act more responsibly if the rest of us older, so-called full-blown adults were setting a better example for them.

More than 31,000 young Canadians age 20 to 29 had contracted COVID-19 as of the end of last week, according to federal government figures. That's 18 per cent of the total 178,000 cases reported across the country.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

However, the statistics show that despite a high number of infections, few people 20 to 29 get seriously ill from the virus. Since last February only 309 people in that age category have been hospitalized across the country. Only 149 have ended up in intensive care units, and 11 have died. Total Canadian deaths now are approaching 10,000.

So, no great danger, no great fear. Many older folks say the young are being irresponsible because, although their risk of getting very sick is small, they can

infect others who can become deadly ill.

If we are going to criticize the young, we need to think about what kind of example we have been setting for them.

Consider the case of Rev. John I. Jenkins, president of the prestigious Notre Dame University in Indiana.

Jenkins, a well-educated Catholic priest, ignored his university's COVID-19 protocols when he attended a White House gathering announcing the nomination of Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the U.S. Supreme Court. Barrett is a Notre Dame graduate and a member of its faculty.

Notre Dame requires all its students and staff to wear masks and observe physical distancing.

Jenkins attended the White House event without wearing a mask and did not observe physical distancing. In fact, he shook hands with several people. He was one of at least a dozen people who tested positive for COVID-19 after attending that event.

It didn't take long for Notre Dame students to pick up on Jenkins's irresponsibility. There were calls for his resignation and discussion of a "no confidence" motion among faculty.

Jenkins has been highly embarrassed and apologetic.

"I failed to lead by example, at a time when I've asked everyone else in the Notre Dame community to do so," he wrote in a letter to university students and staff. "I especially regret my mistake in light of the sacrifices made on a daily basis by many, particularly our students, in adjusting their lives to observe our health protocols."

The tragedy of Jenkins is that he allowed himself to be sucked into the weak-willed crowd around him. Many of the people at the event were allies of a U.S. president who has mocked the wearing of masks.

Wearing a mask at that event would make anyone stand out as someone opposed to the group think; someone open to mockery.

Real leadership is about standing tall and firm in your beliefs, no matter how large or powerful the opposing group surrounding you. Jenkins obviously failed to do that.

He is not alone. Many of us will back off from COVID-19 protocols because we don't want to appear rigid or fanatical.

It's not easy to tell someone NO! when they start to enter your elevator without a mask. Or, when someone decides to speak to you from a distance of two or three feet.

But all of us need to be firm if we are ever to get out from under this terrible virus. Relaxing COVID-19 protocols has resulted in an explosion of second wave infections throughout the world.

If all of us stood firm in observing COVID-19 protocols we would set an example that the young, and others, would find hard to ignore.

Humans don't learn from being blamed and yelled at. We learn from example.

We don't have a vaccine, or proven, readily available drugs to prevent or knock down the virus. But we should have the intelligence to be setting a good example.

letters to the editor

Let the leaves be

To the Editor,

The fall leaves have been, and still are, beautiful this year. With gravity's assistance they are building their annual carpet on the forest floor, and on our yards.

Have you started clearing your leaves already? Why do we do this every year? If asked this question by a young child, what would you tell them? Would you say that the leaves look messy? Well, that's a rather subjective term which varies with individual preferences. Some folks like the look of the shapes and the evolving colours of fallen leaves on their lawns. Have we simply transferred our house cleaning habits to our yards, treating leaves on the lawn like lint on the living room carpet?

Would you tell the child that the leaves, if not removed, are bad for the lawn? Let's take a look at that rationale, as it is a generalization which apparently does not stand up to scrutiny. Yes, leaves in piles, or even thick layers, will prevent or hinder healthy growth of the grass in the following spring. This is not necessarily so for a less dense fall leaf covering.

"Leaves form a natural mulch that helps suppress weeds and fertilizes the soil as it breaks down. Why spend money on fertilizer when you can make your own? Turning leaves into solid waste is, well, wasteful," said National Wildlife Federation naturalist David Mizejewski.

"Removing leaves also eliminates vital wildlife habitat. Critters ranging from turtles to toads and songbirds, mammals and invertebrates rely on leaf litter for food, shelter and nesting material. Many moth and butterfly caterpillars over-

winter in fallen leaves before emerging in spring. Also, sending organic matter such as leaves to the landfill causes the release of greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change." It is also suggested from treehugger.com "that the leaves are essentially composted over time into nutrients that feed both the next year's 'crop' of grass, but which also feed a vast number of microbes in the soil, which are actually the most important 'crop' you can grow, considering that all plant life in your yard depends on a healthy soil biology."

For those not wanting to leave the leaf covering on their entire yard, why not conduct an experiment this year? Select an area of your yard that you are willing to let go natural and see what it looks like in the spring. OK, if you don't wish to allow any full-size leaves to remain on your grass, the following suggestion are offered by the David Suzuki Foundation:

-run your mower over the leaves and mulch them into tiny fragments, still providing numerous benefits

-rake leaves off the lawn into your garden beds, or at the base of trees

-backyard composting benefits from balancing "greens" with "browns", so store leaves to be added in layers kitchen scraps throughout the winter.

Finally, as David Mizejewski says, "the less time you spend raking leaves, the more time you'll have to enjoy the gorgeous fall weather and the wildlife that visits your garden."

**John Gibb
Minden**

Surviving cold and flu season: avoiding illness and boosting your immunity

To the Editor,

When you are healthy and you are exposed to a viral illness, your immune system is equipped to fend off the virus so you have either no symptoms, or tolerable symptoms. When you are "run down" and exposed to the same virus, you run the risk of becoming ill enough to require hospitalization. Here are tips to avoid succumbing to this season's "common cold," influenza and COVID-19 viruses.

1. First, avoid exposing yourself. Malls, stores, banks, post office, restaurants are all high traffic places with high risk for exposure. Limit, or ideally, avoid public places.

Telephone orders, internet delivery and curbside pickup are options.

The flu is mainly spread by droplets in the

air when someone with the flu talks, coughs, or sneezes.

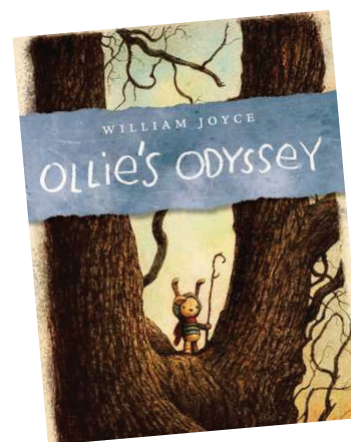
2. Stay away from sick people. Urge others to stay home if unwell, just as you must do to prevent virus transmission if you have symptoms.

Viruses require a new human host to replicate and survive. If a virus cannot move to a new host then it dies. Did you know that if we all stayed away from each other for two weeks, then COVID-19 would die off that quickly? Pretty good reason to stay home, isn't it?

3. Wash, wash, wash your hands. COVID-19 can survive on skin for nine hours (11 hours if mixed with mucus and phlegm). Influenza A can last 1.8 hours (survival of SARS-CoV-2 and influenza virus on the human skin: Importance of hand hygiene in COVID-19: Clinical Infectious

see FLU page 8

Jr. Book of the Month - October



Oliver is a favourite. Of all the toys in Billy's home, the stuffed rabbit takes top rank. Everywhere Billy goes, so goes Ollie. But being a favourite is more than a privilege—it's also dangerous.

Zozo has never been a favourite. An amusement park prize who was never chosen, Zozo has grown so bitter that, when the amusement park closes, he seeks revenge on every toy lucky enough to have been favoured. He wants them all to become The Lost, and even better, Forgotten.

When accidentally left under the table at a wedding, Ollie finds himself on an unplanned adventure, kidnapped by the nefarious Zozo and his gang and faced with the momentous task of saving not only himself, but all the other "lost" stuffies as well...

With nods to *Toy Story* and *Knuffle Bunny*, here's a look at what *really* goes on with your stuffed animals

when the lights are out. Pick up a copy of *Ollie's Odyssey* from the Haliburton County Public Library.

Healthspan

THE TERM “healthspan” has been popping up frequently in the last while. I looked up the definition and it is “The part of a person’s life during which they are generally in good health.” If I had taken a guess it would have been something like that. For years I have said that I stick with my healthy habits not to live longer but to feel good while I am here. I know and appreciate there are diseases and/or accidents that could happen to me that I have no control over. My life could change in a heartbeat. At the moment, I am feeling good and I’m beyond grateful for that.

There are five habits that affect our healthspan, and they are:

- Eating a healthy diet
- Regular exercise
- Maintaining a healthy weight
- Moderate alcohol consumption
- Not smoking

There are no surprises on that list. There have been studies that have proven that adhering to those habits could result in lengthening a lifespan by up to 10 years. The cool thing about the healthspan perspective is that it focuses on quality instead of quantity. What if we stop thinking about how long we might live (no control over that) to how we live (great amount of control over that).

It starts with choosing how to fuel that

beautiful body of yours. You know what I’m going to write next. Say it with me: fruits and vegetables. Stay away from processed and packaged foods. Make it yourself. Find a way, find the time. Plan out your meals for the next week. Do it while you’re getting your regular exercise. See what I did there? Combine those two and you’ve taken care of the part about maintaining a healthy weight.



Laurie Sweig
Practical Fitness

Sounds easy on paper but it can be hard to get started. Once you get a couple of good days under your belt it gets easier. Then what happens is that you notice changes. You scratch your arm and you notice you have a bicep muscle. Or you carry two bags of groceries into the house instead of one without noticing until you’ve put

them down on the counter. Then there’s my favourite, doing up a jacket without inhaling first.

Healthspan is the part of our lives where we are generally in good health. I’m hoping that’s going to be most of my lifespan. How about you?

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointforfitness.com.

Flu shot especially important

from page 7

Diseases, 03 October 2020). Viruses can last even longer on inanimate surfaces. The National Institutes of Health published a study saying that the virus can last up to four hours on copper, 24 hours on cardboard, and 72 hours on stainless steel (NIH, March 2020).

In the air, the virus can last for about three hours, the NIH said.

If you touch a surface with virus particles and then touch your eyes, nose or mouth, the virus has now entered your body.

4. Get vaccinated against influenza. Anyone at any age can get the flu. For some people the flu is mild, but for others it can be severe and even cause death.

Serious problems from the flu can happen to anyone, but people at higher risk include:

- Adults 65 years of age or older
- Children younger than five years of age
- Pregnant women
- People with certain conditions, such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease.

The best way to avoid getting the flu is to get an influenza vaccine (“flu shot”) every year. This also lowers your chances of having serious problems from the flu and of spreading it to others.

The flu vaccine stimulates your immune system – your body’s defence system – to produce special substances and cells that can fight the flu virus. (The vaccine does NOT cause the flu or increase your risk of getting the flu or other illnesses, such as COVID-19.)

Getting the flu virus can make it easier for you to get other viruses and illnesses. Getting the flu vaccine can help keep you and your lungs healthy. This can be especially important if

you’re exposed to COVID-19.

Anyone exposed to COVID-19 while fighting the flu would be at higher risk of respiratory complications. It is your responsibility to decrease your risk of hospitalization from influenza. Hospitalization exposes you to other illnesses such as COVID-19.

Flu Season and the COVID-19 Pandemic

When there is a viral pandemic, like the coronavirus pandemic, it is more important than ever to get the flu vaccine.

The flu vaccine can help keep you from getting sick and going to the hospital, an important consideration during a coronavirus pandemic. You’ll want to do everything you can to keep yourself and those around you healthy and avoid situations that may expose you to the coronavirus. It is also possible that our hospitals and health resources will not be able to support the volume of patients when COVID-19 is circulating, and so getting an available vaccination is just sensible.

5. Immune boosters:

- No smoking
- No alcohol
- Daily exercise
- Daily belly laugh
- Eight hours sleep
- Honey, ginger, zinc, vitamin C, fresh fruits and vegetables, berries, echinacea

Each one of us is in charge of our own behaviour, which influences our personal health and therefore the health of our family and community. Isn’t it empowering to know you *can* have control over the spread of illness as well as the severity of potential illness?

Dr. Nell Thomas
Minden Hills



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Demand is high, inventory low

from page 1

“We had one this summer that had 50 showings on it.”

As for the trend of urbanites buying up rural properties amid the ongoing pandemic, “There’s a lot of comfort and security in it, I think,” vanLieshout says.

When the COVID-19 pandemic struck Ontario in mid-March, it meant a freeze in real estate activity that lasted into May.

“We lost the spring market, which is a very strong market,” says Andrew Hodgson, broker of record for Century 21 Granite Realty Group Ltd., adding it can make up as much as 40 per cent of sales for the year. “So originally, I thought a lot of it was pent up demand as much as anything.”

It then became apparent a wider urban exodus was taking place.

“COVID has for sure given us an unbelievable summer,” Hodgson says.

In terms of property values, in some cases, prices for waterfront properties are up more than 40 per cent from this time last year. Stats from the Ontario Collective, a group of 12 real estate associations throughout Ontario’s cottage country, suggests that from the third quarter of 2019 to the third quarter of 2020, values for waterfront properties are up by more than 48 per cent, non-waterfront properties by more than 11 per cent. It shows the number of sales of waterfront properties being up more than 50 per cent from last year, non-waterfront more than 21 per cent. In terms of sales volume, the collective value of properties, it shows waterfront up more than double – 115 per cent – with a collective value of more than \$122 million for the third



Anthony vanLieshout, centre, has sold real estate in Haliburton County for 35 years and has not seen such low levels of inventory.

quarter of 2020.

While vanLieshout says he’s seen exceptional cases of waterfront properties up more than 40 per cent, he pointed to a cottage that last year was listed at \$550,000, this year for \$699,000, so about a 30 per cent increase in value, which he thinks is more indicative for the county, and notes is still huge. He also references a cottage on Redstone Lake that in 2018 was going for \$2 million and is now selling for \$3 million, for a 50 per cent increase in the span of two years.

Hodgson says for waterfront properties he’s seeing appreciation in the 30- to 35-per cent range over last year, and that many residential properties not located on water have appreciated by almost the same value.

“Never ever have I experienced a market like this.”
— LINDA BAUMGARTNER

”

“It’s everything; it’s on water and off,” says Baumgartner of the demand. In addition to new buyers seeking cottages, she adds that with the ongoing pandemic limiting people’s ability to travel, some people who may have been thinking of selling their cottages are hanging onto them so they have a rural place to escape to. These factors combined seem to be keeping supply consistently low.

“Never ever have I experienced a market like this,” says Baumgartner, who’s sold real estate in Haliburton County for almost 33 years. “... Needless to say, our realtors are run off their feet.”

While it was a slow spring, “then we started rolling and June, July, August, and it just went through,” says Hodgson, who’s sold real estate in the county for 14 years. “We’ve had multiple offers like we’ve never seen, we had price increases on all products, we’re talking about vacant land, residential off water and on water.”

“We are full on now, it is a COVID rush,” Hodgson says, adding he’s had a number of buyers who are condo owners in Toronto who are looking to find space amid the pandemic. “We have a marketplace we haven’t witnessed before as realtors.”

VanLieshout has been selling real estate for 35 years, exposed to the industry through family going back to the early ’70s. He notes there have been boom and bust cycles in the county’s real estate market during that time, and on the global economy, notes, “As a general rule, it kind of goes in seven-year cycles.”

In the late ’80s, the real estate market in Haliburton County was strong, vanLieshout says, that followed by a plunge from 1990 to 1997 that saw properties depreciate by about 30 per cent. Then for a decade between 1997 and 2007, a boom saw local land values increase by 300 per cent. That was followed by a seven per cent dip following the 2008 recession, those values staying flat until 2015, when the county’s market started to heat up again, that trajectory then accelerated by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“What I haven’t seen are the low inventory



Linda Baumgartner says that property buyers are looking to get out of the city.



Andrew Hodgson is optimistic the trend of people moving to Hailburton County will extend beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

levels,” vanLieshout says, noting they are the lowest of his career.

As of Oct. 2, his brokerage had 85 active listings for residential properties and 91 for vacant properties. Compare that to a year prior, when he had 279 active listings for residential properties and 129 for vacant lots. At one point a couple of decades ago, he had 1,000 listings on file.

As for how long the sizzling situation will last, it’s anybody’s guess.

“It all depends on how long this pandemic lasts,” Baumgartner says.

“That’s the crystal ball question,” says vanLieshout. “It’s not just Haliburton, it’s all of rural Ontario.”

Hodgson notes the trend of people leaving cities for less populated areas seems to extend south of the border as well.

“It’s a North American trend,” Hodgson says. “I’ve looked at stats in Wyoming, Montana ... everybody’s leaving cities. I think it’s more than just COVID, COVID was the match lit, but there’s lots of trends that have been coming our way, to leave urban areas, boomers downsizing, etc.”

“The other trend,” Hodgson says, “and this is a key part, once employers figure out that employees can work from home . . . that is a real trend and that is a trend that is going to continue to sustain. This is not a blip, this is going to continue . . . I think it’s going to soften a little, but nevertheless, this idea of moving to Haliburton County is going to continue.”



T R U S S

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‘TRUSS’ includes four installations: ‘Patternmaker-Stress’, ‘Patternmaker-Play’, ‘Crossing’ and ‘One in Three’.

Carey Jernigan's work features wood, light, and memory. She explores industrial processes, material culture, and the people and places they shape. Her work has been featured at the United Nations Headquarters in New York; at Craft Ontario, the Workers' Arts and Heritage Centre, Harbourfront Centre, Parkdale Film & Video Showcase, the Khyber Centre for the Arts, the Anna Leon Owens Gallery, Eyelevel Gallery, and the Nova Scotia Public Archives in Canada; and at De Liceiras 18 in Portugal.

<https://mindenhills.ca/agnes-jamieson-art-gallery> <https://mindenhillsculturalcentre.blog>



Burnt River family new owners at Minden's Pet Tyme

by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

Minden's Pet Tyme has always had a love of animals at the core of the business and that isn't going to change, says new owner Susan Andresen.

From behind her store's counter, Andresen's 100-watt smile illustrates the joy she has for animals and for the business focused on furry, scaly or feathery loved ones. She's had strong support from friends and customers since taking over from previous owner Lynne Brethour on Oct. 1, indicated by bouquets of flowers adorning the counter.

Andresen said her love of animals started as a child when she would take in and help wounded and dying wild animals as a response to her parents, who didn't permit pets. As the manager of the Minden Mercantile and Feed Company for the past six years, she isn't new to running a retail business. Andresen loved running the feed store, but knew it was time to seize the opportunity when she learned she could help to keep what was started by Brethour going.

"We just sort of felt it was the next step for our family so we can own it. So we can grow it for the kids," she said.

Andresen runs a hobby farm in Burnt River with her husband of 17 years and their two teenage children, Erika and Matthew. They all love animals. She and her husband met for the first time at the Toronto Humane Society.

Pet Tyme will be a family-run business, with her husband and children helping out, as they did at the feed store. Their message to the community is "We would like to welcome all customers of [Brethour's] and all new customers and all of my favourite people are all animal crackers, right? Everyone who has pets is my kind of person," she said, laughing.

After close to three decades in business, Brethour said she would be retiring. She provided a prepared statement through email to the *Times*: "Over the period of time that I owned Pet Tyme, [thousands] of patrons came through the door. Some were just passing through on their way to another destination; some came only to browse not only the shop, but the town as well, later buying and moving here. They all were and are special. One learns so much from them all. You see their children, and their pets grow, mature and in some cases their children as well. They were all members of a huge family which in turn becomes the community as a whole. Some have become lifelong friends. So as one door closes, and another one opens, I wish each and every one of you adieu. Whether you have four feet or two. God bless. Thanks for the memories, Lynne, Ruby, and Miss Daisy."

Brethour was a stalwart in the animal products retail scene, having owned and operated her store for 31 years. She started in the North Durham Region in 1989 and then moved to Minden in 2001.



Pet Tyme's new owner Susan Andresen loves animals and welcomes past and new customers. She will be helped by her teenage children and her husband. She assumed control of the business on Oct. 1. The previous owner Lynne Brethour, who owned and operated the store in Minden since 2001 after starting in 1989 in North Durham Region, said the sale was part of her retirement plan. /DARREN LUM Staff

The value of family for Andresen has influenced new hours of operation, which will include closures on holidays and Sundays so she can spend time with her family instead of at 12281 Highway 35.

Walk into the store, located in the same building as a gas station, hair salon and bowling alley, and you'll be met with packed shelves filled with products for the vast array of animals such as dogs and cats, lizards and birds. With a special place for horses in her heart, the graduate of the veterinary technician program at Seneca College has added equine products to the in-store selection. She was excited about receiving her first order of well-known Purica products for horses. She hopes to add Purica products for dogs, cats and humans. For customers who don't see what they want, Andresen encourages them make an order with her. Customers can find discounts on products posted to the store's Facebook page.

Although she has ideas for growing the business, they will not include competing with other animal product retailers such as her past employer and Paulmac's Pets in Minden, but rather collaborate and foster economic prosperity for everyone.

"We want to keep everyone shopping in Minden, you know? So if I can get the highway people, you know that sort of thing, and keep them from driving north or south [that's good]," she said.

Pet Tyme's new owner Susan Andresen completes a transaction with a customer on Thursday, Oct. 8 in Minden. /DARREN LUM Staff



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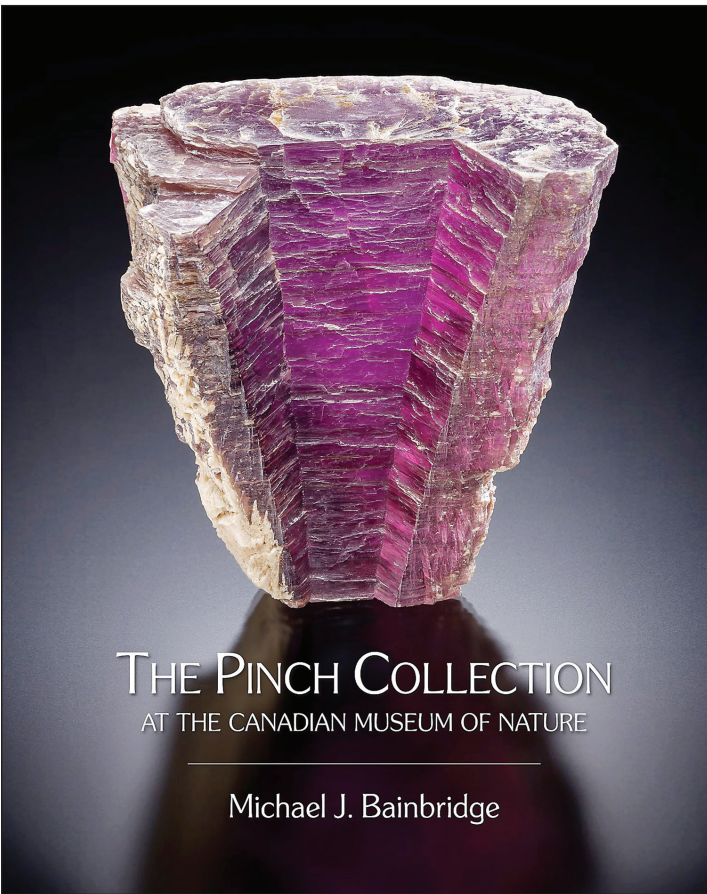
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New book shines light on important collection

Minden's Michael Bainbridge is excited to be releasing a new book, *The Pinch Collection at the Canadian Museum of Nature*. It showcases his writing and some 450 photographs of Pinch's mineral collection highlighting the collection's scientific and cultural importance. The book also tells the story about Pinch, who amassed 16,000 specimens for the Canadian Museum of Nature's collection.
/Submitted by Michael Bainbridge



by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

A new book by Minden's Michael Bainbridge is promising to inform readers about a special collection of minerals with cultural and scientific importance to the world, including the man responsible for it, William Pinch.

Bainbridge, who is an established mineral photographer with experience in film and television, spent what amounts to a year of his life working to complete a 10-year odyssey to finish his book, *The Pinch Collection at the Canadian Museum of Nature*.

As much as the book features the collection, it's the man at the centre of it all who drives the narrative.

Pinch lived the "rags to riches" story. He went from sleeping on the couch of a single room apartment with his mother after his father left them to acquiring wealth that would enable him to buy a castle in upstate New York, after establishing financial security and high standing within the mineral world through his enduring passion for minerals.

"Bill was very much the tormented prodigy. It's also the story of the evolution of material sciences like the mineral sciences over the last 80 to 100 years, but also how those advances have informed our advances in culture and society [and] how those parallel advances [were] in technology and culture," Bainbridge said.

The entire Pinch collection of 16,000 specimens was sold to Ottawa's Canadian Museum of Nature for \$3.5 million USD in 1989 – more than a quarter of the museum's entire collection is Pinch's. At the time, it was the highest price paid for a private mineral collection. At one time he had 2,000 of the 3,000 most important specimens of minerals, Bainbridge said.

Pinch's story and the story of the collection are intertwined.

"It is as much about the collection as it is about Bill. The two are really inseparable. There is no collection without Bill and Bill is not who he is without the collection," he said. "Ostensibly, the purpose of the book is to highlight the collection, but you can't do that without Bill."

Pinch led an interesting life and some of what he said Bainbridge wasn't allowed to record. However, he was surprised at some stories he was allowed to tell, including dealing in minerals with the government of the Soviet Union in the late-1970s and early 1980s behind the Iron Curtain.

The book features photographs of close to 450 specimens, pared down from some 800. They were chosen for relevance to Pinch and the narrative and design of the book.

Although he sought out input from others for the initial 800, ultimately it was up to Bainbridge to narrow it down.

"It was a matter of going through every single drawer in the museum and looking at what Bill had and saying, 'I want to photograph that and that and not that and that and whatever,'" he said.

He admits it was a challenge of how to start the book.

"It's such a monumental work. The collection itself was such a monumental achievement that it really took me a while to really sort of figure out what the story was. What it was about," he said.

There are obvious aspects of importance for the museum, but the importance of the book for people interested in minerals took a little longer to establish. His focus in the

process, he said, was to showcase the minerals and to write with a style that was both accessible for people unfamiliar with minerals and for passionate mineral lovers like him.

Getting to complete this book left an impression on the married father of two girls, who said it was a learning opportunity that he won't forget.

"So I really enjoyed that. That really was one of the through lines of the book as well. This fellow's lifelong dedication to learning. That was evident in the collection that he created and that was certainly sparked in me as I was working with the collection," he said.

The book was actually 10 years in the making, but was delayed by a variety of things such as Pinch's health and two floods in different years that affected Bainbridge's home in Minden. The process to finish the book included regular travel to interview Pinch and others in the U.S., photographing hundreds of specimens and then writing the book.

Bainbridge's passion for minerals started when he was five years old when someone dumped out what appeared to be a pile of rocks at the back of his childhood house on a gravel lane in what was a "hippie commune" of Ottawa's Glebe area. Those rocks included a variety of specimens not local to the area, which he assumed were brought from somewhere else. It first drew the attention of his brother. As a result, their mother was prompted to conduct research on the subject, which resulted in the entire family becoming a member of the Ottawa Valley Mineral Association. That's where Bainbridge met George Robinson, who became his eventual mentor and recently co-authored another book with Bainbridge. Robinson also wrote the foreword for the new book. Bainbridge credits his parents with his curiosity because they always encouraged him to be inquisitive, he said.

Those rocks dumped in the lane behind his house opened his eyes to the treasures of the earth so easily missed hidden underground.

This book, Bainbridge said, is also a credit to others such as his publisher, editor and designer Gloria Staebler. The book was edited by Staebler and Tom Wilson.

He hasn't thought much about the book since its completion in March, since he's been kept busy running TheOccurrence Puzzle Factory with his wife, Brigitte Gall.

"I'm sure once I get it I'll find all kinds of things that I wish I would have done differently ... at this point no regrets. I'm thrilled with it," he said.

Bainbridge hopes to have the *The Pinch Collection at the Canadian Museum of Nature* available to sell before Christmas.

It will be for sale at the Puzzle Factory in Haliburton and at the Canadian Museum of Nature.

What's next for Bainbridge?

"I'm not entirely sure where this goes, but for the book, my hope is it appeals to a broader audience because in many ways the story of the development of science over the last 60 to 80 years," he said. "It's not a technical book. One of the things that are most significant was the scientific value of the collection and the exceptional specimens of extreme rarities that this fellow had collected. So that makes it sound very esoteric, but at the end of the day it is equal parts humanities – story telling and photographic coffee table book. The subjects of the photographs are themselves natural works of art."

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Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 14

Haliburton Forest partners with Yours Outdoors

Yours Outdoors, an experiential tourism company founded by Barrie Martin in 2006, has partnered with Haliburton Forest to “provide and promote the very best tourism opportunities available in the Haliburton Highlands,” the companies say.

Martin will join the tourism and recreation division of Haliburton Forest, alongside general manager Tegan Legge and operations manager Cameron Ferguson, a joint press release issued Oct. 8 states.

“The partnership between Haliburton Forest and Yours Outdoors is a business and a social mission all in one, to work with our stakeholders – and especially experience delivery staff – to grow the tourism economy of the Haliburton Highlands,” Malcolm Cockwell, managing director of Haliburton Forest, said.

The companies say the partnership will help promote the area as a premiere tourist destination, broaden the range of services available to domestic and international markets and create business efficiencies, among other things.

Both companies have received awards from the Ontario Tourism Industry Association, each receiving the Sustainable Tourism Award and Martin being honoured as the Tourism Champion of the Year in 2016.

Yours Outdoors provides experiential tourism packages, taking customers on adventures around the county, participating in activities such as rockhounding, glassblowing, beer tasting, and snowshoeing. Haliburton Forest, situated on a 100,000-acre property, similarly features the Highlands’ natural appeal with offerings such as wolf howls, treetop excursions, dogsledding, astronomy talks and fishing.

Emily Stonehouse, who most recently was economic development, destination and marketing officer for the Township of Minden Hills, will be co-manager of Yours Outdoors and will lead marketing and promotions for Haliburton Forest.

“Yours Outdoors will maintain its distinctive brand and products, will continue working independently with local tourism partners/providers and experience leaders, while working with Haliburton Forest to further develop authentic rural experiences,” the press release says.

Staff

“

The partnership between Haliburton Forest and Yours Outdoors is a business and a social mission all in one.

— MALCOLM COCKWELL

”

THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS IN SEASON, EVERY SEASON

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING APPLICATION FOR MINOR VARIANCE THIS MEETING WILL BE HEARD AS AN ELECTRONIC HEARING BY WAY OF A TELECONFERENCE CALL

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Committee of Adjustment of the Township of Minden Hills will hold a Public Hearing on:

DATE: Monday, October 26, 2020
TIME: 10:30 AM
LOCATION: Due to the physical distancing requirements imposed as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be held as an electronic hearing by way of a teleconference call. To participate:

Join the meeting by telephone by dialing either:
1-647-374-4685 OR 1-647-558-0588

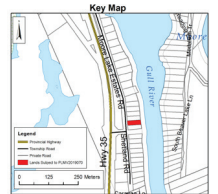
Enter Meeting ID 879 3555 9814

Join the meeting using a computer or smart phone at:
tinyurl.com/y4c5sju6

to consider minor variance applications **PLMV2019070**, **PLMV2019075**, **PLMV2020009**, **PLMV2020017**, and **PLMV2020023**. The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to consider the proposed Minor Variances to the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law pursuant to Section 45 of the Planning Act. The minor variance applications being considered are listed below:

PLMV2019070 - Part of Lot 27, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Lutterworth; municipally known as 1020 Moore Lake Estates Road; and located on the Gull River (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a 26.8 m² (288sq.ft.) car port to be constructed at a distance of 1.67m. (5'6") from the north side lot line; for a 11.1 m² (120sq.ft.) addition to the existing deck which is located at a distance of 7.6m. (25') from the High Water Mark; and for a 29.7 m² (320sq.ft.) addition to the existing 69.1 m² (744sq.ft.) dwelling which is located at a distance of 12m. (39'5") from the High Water Mark. The variance sought would allow for a carport within the required side yard setback, a 60% increase in size of the existing, non-complying deck, and a 43% increase in the size of the existing, non-complying dwelling, whereas no increase in size is otherwise permitted for structures located within 15m. (49'3") of the High Water Mark, and a Carport would otherwise be 4.5m. (14'9") from a side lot line.



PLMV2019075 - Part of Lot 20, Concession 2, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 1307 Kashagawigamog Lake Road; and located on Kashagawigamog Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new 69.7 m² (750sq.ft.) detached garage with a 2nd storey sleeping cabin measuring 5.9m. (19'5") in height as measured to midpoint of roof to be located 34.5m. (113'2") from the High Water Mark (HWM). The variance sought would allow for an increase in the maximum height of an accessory building located less than 45m. (147'8") from the HWM, which would otherwise be limited to 3.5m. (11'6") in height.



PLMV2020009 - Part of Lot 16, Concession 5, Geographic Township of Lutterworth; municipally known as 1048 The Beaten Path Lane; and located on Clear Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new 26.8 m² (288sq.ft.) enclosed sunroom to the existing 70.2 m² (756sq.ft.), non-complying, dwelling which is situated 13.4m. (44') from the High Water Mark (HWM) and is to project to a distance of 12m. (39'5") together with the replacement of the existing 39 m² (420sq.ft.) attached deck with a new 55.2 m² (594sq.ft.) open deck to project a further 0.2m. (0'8") towards the water. The variance sought would allow for the enclosed sunroom to be located within the 23m. (75'6") required setback and for a 41.5% increase in size to the attached deck and its further projection towards the HWM whereas no increase or further projection towards the HWM is otherwise permitted for an attached deck located within 15m. (49'3") of the HWM.



PLMV2020017 - Part of Lot 12, Concession 13, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as Vacant Land on Peterson Road (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new 88.4 m² (952sq.ft.) dwelling with an attached 162.4 m² (1,748sq.ft.) open deck to be located 1.9m. (6'2") from the front lot line, and 9m. (29'7") from the rear lot line together with the construction of a new 53.5 m² (576sq.ft.) detached garage to be located 0.6m. (2') from the rear lot line. The variance sought would allow for the dwelling to be constructed within the 15m. (49'3") setback from any property line otherwise required within the Rural (RU) zone and the garage to be constructed within the required 3m. (9'10") from a private road and 2m. (6'7").



PLMV2020023 - Part of Lot 23, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Lutterworth; municipally known as 1075 Learys Lane; and located on Gull Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the replacement of an existing 25m. (82') dock with a new 50m. (164'1") dock which is to be relocated to the centre of the property; and further, to permit the construction of a new 38 m² (409sq.ft.) gazebo to be situated 3.5m. (11'6") from the High Water Mark (HWM). The variance sought would allow for a dock to project further than the maximum 25m. (82') distance into the water, and a gazebo larger and closer to the water than the limit of a 9 m² (96.9sq.ft.) which may project into the required 23m. (75'6") setback from the HWM to a distance not closer than 10m. (32'10").



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION regarding these applications are available online at www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom. Copies of the complete applications will be available for public inspection at the Township of Minden Hills Building and Planning Department by appointment only.

HAVE YOUR SAY: Input on the above noted applications is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Township. If you do not attend the public meeting, it may proceed in your absence and, except as otherwise provided in The Planning Act, you will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceedings.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS: To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision, please contact the undersigned or e-mail iclending@mindenhills.ca.

ANY PERSON OR AGENCY WHO IS OF THE OPINION THAT HOLDING THE HEARING AS AN ELECTRONIC HEARING IS LIKELY TO CAUSE THEM SIGNIFICANT PREJUDICE, may make a submission to the undersigned, and if the Committee is satisfied that holding the hearing as an electronic hearing is likely to cause the party significant prejudice then the hearing will be re-scheduled as an oral hearing.

Interested parties are encouraged to join 15 minutes ahead of the scheduled start time.

For additional information on participating in an electronic hearing visit: www.tinyurl.com/yyctaqa0

If you are interested in participating in the hearing you are encouraged to contact the undersigned prior to the meeting date with any questions you may have and/or to provide any material for the Committee's consideration at the hearing.

ACCESSIBILITY: The Township of Minden Hills is committed to providing services as set out in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. **If you have accessibility needs and require alternative formats or other accommodations, please contact the undersigned.**

PRIVACY DISCLOSURE: As one of the purposes of the Planning Act is to provide for planning processes that are open and accessible, all written submissions, documents, correspondence, e-mails or other communications (including your name and address) form part of the public record and may be disclosed/made available by the Township as deemed appropriate, including anyone requesting such information. Please note that by submitting any of this information, you are providing the Township with your consent to use and disclose this information as part of the planning process.

For more information about this matter contact iclending@mindenhills.ca.

Ian Clending, MPI., ACST
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment
P.O. Box 359, 7 Milne Street, Minden ON., K0M 2K0



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Value of Loans	\$326,873,949
Leveraging	\$547,922,961
Total Jobs	19,875
Population Served	14,576,733
CED Projects	4,617
\$ CED Projects	\$9,208,199



Hal HCDC

Members of the Haliburton County Development Corporation board appear on video during the annual general meeting Oct. 7 held on Zoom. Standing at back is executive director Patti Tallman, who gave an overview of loan distribution in the last year. / Screenshot

Hundreds of jobs created or maintained through HCDC programs, staff reports

by JENN WATT
Editor

Over the last fiscal year, and in the months since the coronavirus pandemic began, Haliburton County Development Corporation has been making funding available to the county’s business community with hundreds of thousands of dollars flowing through multiple programs.

On Oct. 7, those who tuned in to the annual general meeting held on Zoom heard about the loan and grant programs HCDC administers as well as money made available to combat the economic pressure of the pandemic.

Twenty-one loans were approved through the HCDC

COVID Loans Program, with \$932,500 distributed.

“HCDC quickly moved into action and created a COVID loans program similar to the flood relief program we provided [in 2017]. Loans were offered at zero per cent [interest] up to \$25,000 with deferred payments for the first three months,” Patti Tallman, executive director, said.

For the businesses supported by the COVID-19 loans program, 110 employees were laid off, while 127.5 employees who were employed at the time the loans were received kept their jobs.

HCDC also administered the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund, which received FedDev capitalization of \$994,889. Twenty-six loans through that fund were approved, worth \$818,000. Sixty-one employees remained employed, while 175 were laid off from the total employee count of 228 before COVID-19 for those businesses. There are three pending approvals for \$105,000.

Tallman said the federal government had just announced another \$560,000 for Haliburton County through this loans program.

“So that’s a total injection, since May, a capitalization of \$1,554,889. Thank you to FedDev for their support and helping us help our businesses and rural communities in Haliburton County,” she said.

Regarding their typical annual activities, loans officer Sara Joanu gave an update of the corporation’s impact.

“In 2019, HCDC approved 60 loans and disbursed \$4,685,000, 350 jobs were created and maintained within the year, and in 2020, we approved 59 loans to businesses and disbursed just over \$3.7 million, 285 jobs were created and maintained,” Joanu said, noting that although the amount of money given out this year was less than in 2019, they still met their goal of \$3.5 million of disbursed dollars.

Nearly 40 per cent of those receiving loans from HCDC since the corporation’s inception were “business services,” which includes businesses such as restaurants, landscaping, hair salons, accounting and auto repair. Retail made up about 18 per cent, followed by construction, manufacturing, tourism, and forestry.

Autumn Wilson, program and operations coordinator, up-

dated the group on the grants programs and what funding has accomplished in the community. The Local Initiatives Program had 15 approved applications last year with 103 partners, disbursing about \$55,000. The list of initiatives benefiting includes a housing summit, seniors education day, trail development, food forum, youth sailing program, snowmobile association development, Minden Pride Week, and The Studio Tour rebranding. A full list is available on the HCDC website.

The Business Expansion and Innovation Program approved 24 applications in the 2019-2020 fiscal year, creating 32 jobs and maintaining 75. Money helped businesses expand into new markets and improve branding, purchase new equipment and undergo training.

Funding for innovation provided through FedDev was also distributed through the Eastern Ontario Rural Innovation Initiative with \$750,000 available over two years. Ten projects were approved in the last year, creating or maintaining 106 jobs.

Boshkung Brewing was one of the local businesses benefiting from the innovation dollars, using funds to modernize and increase production and create operational efficiencies, Wilson told attendees. “Through this project, they were able to create new products and increase their sales by 200 per cent,” she said.

Fleming College’s wastewater testing site in Minden accessed innovation funding “to accelerate the commercialization of wastewater treatment technologies,” purchasing equipment and materials.

The final presentation was made by consultant Jim Blake, who highlighted the work of the business incubator, which currently has two clients: Highland Technical, an engineering firm; and Haliburton Guitar Studio, which offers lessons, music production, instrument repair and event planning.

Incubator businesses benefit from affordable office space in the building next to the Dysart et al town hall (the former Haliburton library), broadband internet access, mentoring and meeting space.

Community Events

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Pat Lewis at classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

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SINCE INCORPORATION [1986]	
Industry Canada Contributions	\$2,375,000
Total Loans Disbursed (2,166)	\$88,675,225
Average Loan Size	\$40,940
Loans Written Off	\$3,197,744
Loan Loss Rate	4%
Interest Earned	\$17,336,715

A slide from the HCDC AGM presentation capturing information on the corporation’s activities since 1986.

“ In 2020, we approved 59 loans to businesses and disbursed just over \$3.7 million, 285 jobs were created and maintained. — SARA JOANU ”

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Please submit your resume by **3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27, 2020** to:

Dawn Mugford-Guay
Human Resources Coordinator
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Rd.
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1
Email: dmugfordguay@algonquinhighlands.ca

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Must be a minimum of 600 hours in duration, counting both class time and practical experience.

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In Loving Memory of

Ross Irving Codlin

(Retired Constable with Toronto Police Service)
Passed away peacefully at the Ross Memorial Hospital, Lindsay on Sunday, October 4, 2020, at the age of 92.

Beloved husband of the late Irene Codlin (2003) and the late Aileen Blears (2015). Dear brother of Robert (Gertrude) and Frank (Muriel) (all deceased). Lovingly remembered by the Codlin and the Blears Families.

In keeping with Ross's wishes, cremation has taken place and his cremated remains will be interred in the family plot at the Minden Cemetery.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

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In Loving Memory of

Lois Chiasson (nee Harrison)

Passed away peacefully with her family by her side, October 7, 2020, after a lengthy battle with COPD, at the age of 77.

She was born to the late Ray and Eva Harrison, January 3, 1943, in Minden, Ontario. Lois is survived by her loving husband of 58 years, Raymond, and her children: Ev-Anne (David Graham), Kelli, Corey (Susan Drinkwalter), Krista, Keegan (Bailey), and Arianna (Michael Helm). She will be remembered by her eleven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Lois leaves behind loving sisters Gloria (Richard), June, and Barbara, and is predeceased by sisters Maisie and Lynn, and brothers Bill and John.

Lois was a proud educator for 37 1/2 years. She started her teaching career straight out of high school in Camp 12 in Northwestern Ontario, at the age of 17. A committed and caring teacher, Lois taught grades 1 through 8 at Burnt River Public School and Ridgewood Public School until her retirement in 1997. Always a teacher, Lois tutored for many years and enjoyed sharing her wealth of books and resources with her children and grandchildren.

Lois' hands were never idle; she loved knitting, crocheting, sewing and quilting. Every new baby received a beautiful sweater set or bunting bag, blankets and bibs, or a hand-embroidered quilt. Lois took great joy in sending tiny, soft knitted hats to the NICU at Sick Kids, Mount Sinai and Peterborough Regional Health Centre every year.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

The family asks that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Canadian Lung Association, the Canadian Cancer Society or COPD Canada would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

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VOLUME III, No. 51

Wednesday, October 14, 1981



Shopper's in Minden were greeted by smiling faces and shiny apples Saturday morning as members of the Minden Scout Group held their annual Apple Day. Money raised from the campaign is used to assist Scouting activities in Minden. Showing off their baskets of apples are Beavers Cameron Berry, left and Simon Prentice.

First year a big success for Slider new attractions planned for 1982

Close to 80,000 riders made this a very successful year for the Sky Slider in Haliburton Village. "We are really pleased," slide owner Steve Bowskill stated earlier this week. "Despite the wet weather during the summer months, the number of riders met our projections. It was a successful year."

The newest attraction in the Highlands proved to be such a success that Bowskill has plans to add further attractions next year and there is even a possibility the facilities might see limited use this winter.

"We are holding discussions with the manufacturers of the sled to see if there might be some modifications which could be made to adapt them for a bobsled type run," Bowskill stated. He said the manufacturers of the track have indicated that portions of the ride would not be damaged by winter use. "I was concerned about risking the

track. I didn't want to use it during the winter, only to find that we have ruined it for the summer trade," Bowskill stated. He said that the makers of the double cement tracks that snake down the side of the hill have assured him the facility will stand up to the winter use.

At the moment the company which supplies the carts is examining the changes which would be necessary to enable them to run in the winter. Bowskill said that if a successful design could be made, the facilities at the Sky Slider site could be used on weekends during the winter months. "There is a 50/50 chance that we could be providing some activity for the winter months," Bowskill predicted.

Number of reasons

The owner of the attraction attributed the first successful year of operation to a number of things. "Basically what we

have is a family attraction," Bowskill said. "It is good clean fun that everyone in the family can enjoy." He pointed out that the slide did not create competition for any existing enterprise. "We were

an addition to the local business community that created an attraction for the Haliburton area. It gave more people a reason for coming to Haliburton and helped increase the awareness of the



It was a good year for the newest attraction.

CTC rules rail line may close

The Canadian Transport Commission has given its blessing to an application by Canadian National Railways to abandon the rail line between Lindsay and Haliburton. The decision favouring CN's request, was made public September 28 with copies of the material being made available locally

of that material. Thomson noted the losses as submitted by Canadian National for the operation of the Lindsay-Haliburton line, and accepted these as being proper under the conditions of the Railway Act which allows certain costs to be assigned to all portions of the CN system.

made economic."

Thomson said that shippers in the area could find access to other modes of transportation, some of which, like trucking, has replaced the service provided by the train several years ago. He noted that rail access would still exist at Bracebridge to the west and Lindsay to the south.

He said that any saving which could be realized through the use of trains in the years ahead, "which of course is presently unknown," must be weighed against the cost of maintaining the line until it becomes economical. He noted that it was the Canadian taxpayers who must carry the losses of the line.

"I am not convinced," Thomson's report stated, "either by the potential referred to above in the economic area, nor by the possibility of energy conservation, that the trucking

Steam train still a possibility: Skelcher
see page 3

last week.

The commission, in its decision, said the rail line was uneconomic and was likely to remain so. It also endorsed the figures submitted by Canadian National outlining the losses experienced on the line during the past five years. These ranged from \$181,000 in 1975 to \$196,013 in 1979. The CTC said it would be 35 days before the abandonment order became official. After that time the company would be permitted to remove the tracks and dispose of its assets in relation to the line's operation.

The decision of the commission endorsed the report of the hearings prepared by J.B.G. Thompson who served as chairman. The hearings had been held in Haliburton and Lindsay last September.

His report to the commission reviewed the evidence presented at the hearings and offered his own observations

Not profitable

In his assessment of the economic future for the rail line, an important point in the commissioner's estimation, Thomson noted, "No intervenor has satisfied me that the Haliburton line is profitable nor capable of being rendered profitable," his report stated. "Although

Warden says railway is still needed
see page 3

the potential for growth in this area can in no way be discounted, there is nothing of a concrete nature presented at the hearing to indicate the line will ever become economic. In addition, even with improved marketing and increased traffic from as yet undefined mineral activities, it is not clear that this line could be

mode cannot adequately serve the area in the future."

Economy will not be hurt

The CTC chairman said he was not concerned that the withdrawal of rail service from this area would have an over-all detrimental effect on the general economy. "In my view such fear is unfounded and the facts in no way indicate this will occur," the commissioner stated.

He noted that the Ontario government had made one of the strongest appeals for the retention of the line in calling for an over-all study of railway service in this part of the province. Thomson said he was sympathetic to this approach but he could not delay his recommendations any longer. "In my view it was up to the government of Ontario to present the commission with the study in question, prior to or at the hearing of the application or at the very least with some date for its completion."

The commissioner said he felt there was little possibility that future economic development would be hurt by the abandonment of the rail line. "I realize that such potential is difficult to assess, and that abandonment, once ordered is irreversible." The commissioner said he gave the evidence presented by the local delegations careful consideration. "I am not however, convinced that such potential justifies the

(more on page 2)

(more on page 3)

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- Developed shoreline is sandy with a gradual, easy entry. Potential for severance



Adele Barry
705-457-0306

Commercial Opportunity \$599,000

- Two parcels totaling 59 acres, 5 acres zoned commercial HWY & 54 zoned disposal industrial
- Modern 3-bedroom, 2 bath home
- Approx. 7000 sq ft of space between 2 shops



NEW LISTING



Drew Bishop*
Kristin Bishop*
457-2128 x23

Haliburton Home \$499,999

- Executive family home close to area amenities
- Open concept, great layout for entertaining
- Attached double garage & 500 sq ft deck
- 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2000+ Sq Ft



SOLD



Dagmar Boettcher**
457-5968

Kushog Lake \$324,900

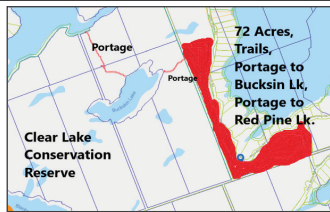
- Postage stamp lot with million-dollar view
- Newer insulated Maibec sided cottage
- Rock shelf shoreline with small sand area
- Western exposure with view up the lake



Andy Campbell
854-0292

Minden Rent-All

- Business Only
- 2020 is their best year
- Growth Opportunities



Gloria Carnochan*
754-1932

West Shore Rd Kennis Lk \$279,000

- 72 ac of forest /trails, also trail 2 Bucksin
- Portage 2 Redpine Lk, for canoe routes
- Snowmobiling, ATVing, biking, horse riding



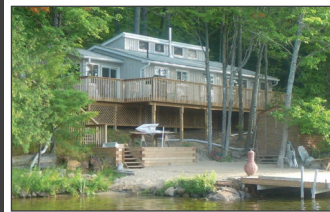
NEW LISTING



Mark Dennys*
457-0473

Private Getaway \$189,000

- 333 Ft Rd Frtg, 25 Acres
- Apprx 636 Sq Ft, 160 Sq Ft Shed
- Flat, Private, Bush, Dug Well
- No Hydro, Generator in Place



Tom Ecclestone*
286-2138 x 26

Sugar Island Gull Lake

- Totally renovated 4-bedroom 3 bath cottage
- 413 feet of frontage with sand beach
- Bonus Bunkie you have to see
- Main land parking, docking w/garage



SOLD



Lindsay Elder*
457-5878

Carnarvon Home \$399,000

- Log home immaculately kept inside and out
- Spacious principle rooms, 2 bdrms, 2 baths
- Private location near two lake with beautiful gardens & decks



NEW LISTING



Andrew Hodgson***
286-2138 x 29

Heritage House \$699,000

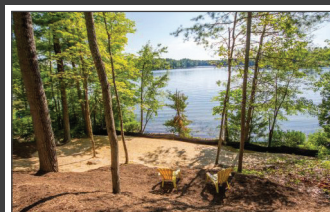
- Updated and well-maintained historical building
- 6 residential rental units, with a 3 bdrm residence
- Part of the building is zoned commercial with many options for future usage



Susanne James*
Andy Mosher**
457-2128 x 33

Long Lake \$499,900

- 3-season cottage on Long/Miskwabi chain
- 3 BR, 4-piece bath, newer septic sized for 4 bedrooms.
- Miles of boating, year-round road access



David Lee*
286-2138 x 27

Gull Lake \$549,000

- Large private waterfront lot on a premium lakes
- 3.2 Acres, 240' of waterfrontage, level building site
- Hardpacked sand, shallow entry, cleaned and ready to build!



Donna McCallum*
455-2054

Highway Commercial \$350,000

- 8-acre parcel with 1240' frontage on Cty Rd 21
- 10 minutes from Haliburton
- Opportunity to live in and to run a business.
- Sold "as is" - needs repair



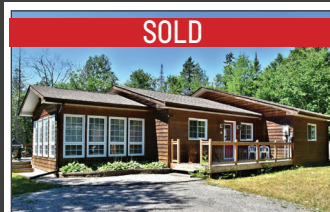
SOLD



Brandon Nimigon*
457-2128 x 27

Trooper Lake \$420,000

- Well-maintained, rustic, 3-bedroom cottage
- Open concept Living/Kitchen/Dining
- Spectacular views across the lake
- Flat lot is great for all ages



SOLD



Karen Nimigon**
457-6505

Wilberforce \$359,000

- County Home, 3 bdrms, 2baths, open concept
- Granite counters, wood floors, cathedral ceilings, skylights
- 5 minutes to public beach & local amenities



Kirsten Rae*
286-2138 x 30

Industrial Park Rd \$1,200,000

- 10,000 sq ft of mixed use industrial and commercial space
- Sitting on a private 6.75 acre lot in Haliburton
- Unlimited possibilities with this fantastic building!



SOLD IN 1 DAY



Darlene Reil*
447-2055

Gooderham \$125,000

- 13 acres bush with trails throughout
- Driveway installed, multiple building sites
- Joining crown land



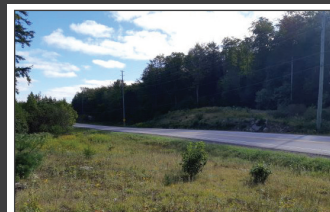
SOLD



Christine Sharp*
705-489-9968

Halls Lake \$849,900

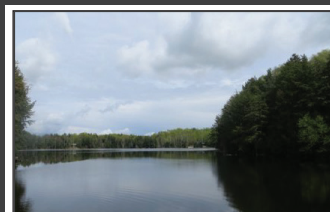
- 2 waterfront homes in 1
- 120' of sandy shore
- Great income opportunity



Greg Stamp*
457-2128 x 28

County Road 21 \$179,000

- Acreage close to Haliburton Village & Pinestone Resort
- Beautifully Treed with driveway already installed.
- Ultimate privacy for residential use!



Melanie Vigrass*
286-2138 x 32

West Lake Building Lot \$265,300

- Prime lot with a stunning view over the Lake
- Year-round township road, terrific building site
- Hydro & Bell are available at the lot line



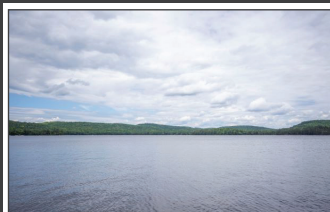
SOLD



Lindsay Wilkinson*
286-2138 x 23

Denna Lake \$420,000

- 3-bedroom, 2 bath. Seasonal cottage
- 275' waterfront, 9.7 acres
- Sunset exposure plus sand beach



Andrea Wilson**
457-2128 x 25

Percy Lake \$680,000

- 3.9 acre building lot, 555' of waterfront
- Incredible point lot with big lake views
- Private location, driveway installed

We are open for business! Our client's health remains our primary concern. Our REALTORS will be following certain protocols to ensure our clients safety. Contact us to learn more about our updated practices.

**PROUDLY PART OF THE HALIBURTON
HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY!**
CENTURY 21 Granite Realty
Group Ltd. BROKERAGE

Haliburton 705-457-2128 | Minden 705-286-2138 | Carnarvon 705-489-9968 | Kennis Lake 705-754-1932

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